Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:



- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Original) A computer system, said computer system comprising:
 - a bus;
 - a central processing unit;

memory, said memory being connected to said central processing unit via said bus; and a password validation mechanism, said password validation mechanism providing simultaneous feedback to a user regarding validity of a password string for more than one resource.

- 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Canceled)
- 7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Canceled)

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9. (Amended) A program product, said program product comprising:

signal bearing media a memory;

a program product disposed on said <u>memory signal bearing media</u>, said program product being a password validation mechanism, said password validation mechanism providing simultaneous feedback to a user regarding validity of a password string for more than one resource.

- 10. (Original) The program product of claim 9 wherein said password validation mechanism simultaneously provides feedback for each of said more than one resource.
- 11. (Original) The program product of claim 9 wherein said password validation mechanism simultaneously provides feedback for each resource using more than one visual cue.
- 12. (Original) The program product of claim 11 wherein said more than one visual cue is selected from the group consisting of icon presentation, message presentation, and character highlighting.
- 13. (Canceled)
- 14. (Canceled)
- 15. (Original) A method for providing feedback to a user, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a password string from said user;

checking whether said password string conforms with certain requirements for more than one password-protected resource; and

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presenting said user with feedback regarding said certain requirements for each of said more than one resource.

- 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said presenting step involves simultaneously providing feedback for each of said more than one resource.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said presenting step involves simultaneously providing feedback for each resource using more than one visual cue.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said more than one visual cue is selected from the group consisting of icon presentation, message presentation, and character highlighting.